

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 18-21 are pending in the application. Claim 17 has been cancelled.

Claims 9 and 10 have been amended to overcome the objections raised by the Examiner. Claims 1, 2, 10-13, 15-16, and 18 have been amended to further define the invention. The Applicants will address the non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection upon an indication of allowability of the claims. No new matter is included through these amendments.

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC 112 first paragraph. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection as one skilled in the relevant art would readily recognize that the Applicants had full possession of the claimed invention. With regard to the object oriented scheme, the disclosure states in paragraph 60 of page 17 that "CPU 170 then loads all object code for grammar, meta-state definitions, rules , etc.," and provides numerous references to code throughout the application. Accordingly one skilled in the art would readily recognize the applicants had full possession of the embodiment of claim 5. In addition, on page 34 paragraph 83 it is stated that "It should be appreciated that during the grammar based processing and the state and rule execution processing, a copy of the message is held in message buffer memory 322 for retrieval by action execution engine 190 and queue block 192. In one embodiment, the rules engine provides direct access to any variable within the payload of a message through grammar based access by pre-pending the key word message, e.g., message.smtpCommand." Here again the support for claims 5 and 6 is specified in the cited section so as to convey to one skilled in the art that the applicants had full possession of the claimed embodiments.

Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 1, 10, and 16 have been amended to include the features of claims 2, 11, and 17, respectively. Accordingly, the rejections under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Corston Oliver should be withdrawn as the reference fails to teach the amended features as acknowledged by the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 1, 10, and 16 have been amended to include the features of associating each of the message segments with a meta session through the tokens, wherein the meta session is persistent across message transactions. The Examiner asserts that the W3C article discloses meta sessions through page 41 section 4.11.1. Applicants respectfully submit that the meta data in section 4.11, which contains information about a document, has a life that is the same as the document in which the data is embedded. The meta session of the present invention is persistent across message transactions, whereas the W3C article has no similar concept because it is not necessary. The meta session of the present invention enables tracking or associating previous transactions of a user even though the user has logged out and logged in (see paragraph 79). The W3C article has no similar feature as once the documents life ends there is no need to maintain the meta data about the document. In addition, the W3C article has no means by which document data is maintained or in which data from multiple related documents are associated as there is no need for this feature. The concept of a meta session as defined and claimed in the present application are concepts unrelated to the W3C article and the fact that meta data is

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mentioned in the reference is unrelated to the concept of meta session as claimed and defined in the present application. Accordingly, claims 1, 10, and 16, and corresponding dependent claims, are allowable for at least the above stated reasons

In addition, claims 2, 11, and 17 include the feature of: retrieving meta session state information related to the message segments, wherein the meta session state information is invariant across different connections. As stated above, the W3C article is silent as to maintaining state information across different connections as specified in these amended claims. The life of the meta tag information of the W3C article is based on the life of the document whereas the meta session state information is maintained in the present information and can be associated with information across different connections. Again, the W3C article has no use for this type of information for a document.

Applicants respectfully request examination based on the foregoing amended claims. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774 6921. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. XAMBP001A). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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